

WASHINGTON, SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 1908.

Open Arms of Peasants Await Countess Gladys In Szechenyi's Domain

Showers of Bread and Salt and Old-Time Melodies and Folklore Planned by Elders and Merry Villagers.

BUDAPEST, Feb. 25.—The elders and all the merry villagers of Oermeeze—800 in all, are preparing to greet their liege lord Count Ladislaus Szechenyi and his lady, the Countess Gladys, with becoming honors—bread and salt, flowers, greens, folk-song, national music, and rural dances. The Hotel Hungaria, of this city, is likewise putting its best foot forward to render a royal welcome to the young couple, for the Szechenyis own no town house and must put up at a hostelry like ordinary travelers.

The Washington Times correspondent, just back from Oermeeze, found the village in a high state of expectation. The Szechenyis were rehearsing new and old melodies, some of them furnished by no less an authority than the redoubtable Rigo, a relative of Countess Szechenyi by his former wife, Princess Chimay, who was Clara Ward, of Detroit.

All the women were washing and ironing clothes; all the men polishing metal buttons, daggers, and swords, brushing up tarnished gold and silver lace, or putting a new coat of dye on purple trousers, red skirts, and yellow mantles. For the gala array of the people of Oermeeze, the Szechenyi domain, puts all the colors of the rainbow under contribution, and as most of the national costumes worn here are inheritances from fathers and grandfathers, they need freshening up and renewing every time they are taken out of the great oaken boxes, where they repose year in and year out.

Only Six Carriage Horses.

The tumble-down railway station of the narrow gauge road leading from Budapest is being whitewashed and cleaned out, and if the young couple delay their arrival until the forests wear their spring dress, there will be green twigs and branches in profusion.

As to flowers, "The Lady of the Manor House," Count Szechenyi's mother, will furnish them from her hothouses, and Countess Gladys' path will be actually strewn with flowers when she steps from the train to mount the six-in-hand victoria that will convey her and her husband to the castle.

As the Szechenyis keep only six carriage horses, the family will be obliged to await the young couple's home-coming at the castle, but a number of magistrates of the neighborhood, particularly the Counts and Countesses of Sigra, the Apponyis and others, will be on hand at the depot, on horseback, as is the fashion here.

The Dowager Countess of Szechenyi, Count Ladislaus' mother, told The Times representative that her steward would furnish a mounted guard of honor, and that her friends, the noble families named, would augment the same by both men and beasts.

"You must understand," added the grand old lady, "that the administration of our estate is entrusted to an old vassal of the house, Herr Veigstock.

The landed properties, embracing over 2,000 acres, would necessitate too much work for men of the world like my sons. Hence Veigstock was put into absolute charge of the land, cattle, and people, the family retaining less than thirty acres for its own use, namely the gardens and parks surrounding this castle.

Dance for Countess Gladys.

"As most of the work in the fields is done by hand and by oxen, Veigstock does not keep enough horses to make much of a show, and for my own use six old hackneys suffice, for I seldom drive with more than four horses. However, if my new daughter-in-law, the Countess Gladys, is inclined to revive the old ceremonial which were in vogue under my late husband, who was very fond of pomp and circumstance, Laszlo (the Hungarian for Ladislaus) will add enough horses to our stable to enable her to travel with six whenever she likes. Six horses, you know, is the limit for a count or countess in Hungary. Only margraves or princes may drive with eight."

Countess Imre Szechenyi is a well-preserved woman of sixty-five, the typical grand old lady. She has the carriage and imposing address of a woman who has lived much in the company of royalty and considers herself not at all less highborn than any queen in Christendom. She wore a costume of purple velvet, the beauty of which was heightened by precious lace and a discreet display of jewels. On her breast was the great order of the Star and Cross, and above her writing desk hung a highly embossed "patent of nobility," signed by the late Empress Elizabeth, designating her dame of the palace.

In Hungary the countess is esteemed a very rich woman, since, according to the testament of her late husband, Ladislaus' father, she received for life two-eighths of his fortune of 10,000,000 francs (\$2,000,000), and the use of the castle at Oermeeze. Her six children, four boys and two girls, received \$300,000 each, besides their respective interest in the family lands, held in common.

Income About \$250 a Week.

The much-advertised fortune of Gladys Vanderbilt's husband, then, consists of a quarter of a million dollars' capital, and a more or less regular income of from \$200 to \$250 per week. He has, at present, no home in Hungary, except an apartment of three rooms at Castle Oermeeze, which the correspondent was allowed to inspect. It is safe to say that they compare badly with any middle-class bachelor apartments in New York, while the furnishings are the reverse of modern, and sanitary appointments are absolutely lacking.

When The Times' correspondent asked Veigstock whether there was running water, that functionary replied indig-

nantly that the Hungarian nobility, the Lord be praised, could afford to hire servants to fetch them water from the well whenever needed.

In a further talk the dowager countess said: "I have no intention to leave this palace, where I have passed the happiest hours of my life with my dear husband."

Vanderbilts Will Build One.

To enable Ladislaus to improve Oermeeze and for the purpose of securing a town house for Gladys and her count the Vanderbilts set aside \$2,000,000 of Gladys' fortune, but the marriage contract does not give Ladislaus full control of that amount of money. The real estate transactions and rebuilding are all subject to Gladys' approval; not a dollar can be spent without her consent.

Countess Gladys, it seems, has made up her mind to have a residence in Museum street, Budapest, and the residence will be entered on the records as the property of Countess Szechenyi.

Since Ladislaus intends to run for parliament in the near future his greatly increased fortune will be a feather in his political cap.

The Times representative suggested as much to the dowager countess, but her ladyship absolutely refused to talk finance.

"You know," she said, "I wouldn't have given my consent to this international marriage if it were not a love match. A Szechenyi has no occasion to take the finances of his intended wife into consideration," she added proudly.

Continuing, the dowager countess said: "I am speaking for my daughters and my other sons, as well as for Count Ladislaus' uncles, aunts, cousins, and the rest of the family, when I say that there was not a ghost of opposition to the marriage on anybody's part from the very start."

"Some of us knew Gladys; we all know the worth of the Vanderbilt family. Consequently, when my son informed me that he loved this lovely girl, my heart leaped with joy, and my sentiments were shared by my son's brothers and sisters and the other Szechenyis, every one of them."

The dowager is most ceremonial in all she does and says. She never referred to either her son or her daughter-in-law without giving them their titles.

Speaking of the young countess' chances of being received at court, the dowager said:

"Since Hungarian magnates have long ceased to go to court unless commanded by the King on certain ceremonial occasions, my daughter-in-law's introduction to his majesty depends upon circumstances and to a certain extent on politics. King Francis Joseph visits Hungary only when obliged for reasons of state. If he does come, my son may be called upon to go to the Hofburg, and, of course, his wife will accompany him, for wherever a Count Szechenyi goes his wife is welcome."

As to Running Water.

"Have you a telephone?" asked the correspondent.

Herr Veigstock had heard of the telephone, but according to Oermeeze ideas it is an invention for the big cities.

"But we have a telegraph at the depot," continued the steward, his face brightening up, "and the depot, as you know, is only six miles distant. If we had a decent riding horse in the stable, a telegram could be put on the wire in an hour's time."

"No electric light, no phone, no saddle horses, no autos—but the young countess has at least running water in her rooms!"

"I told you," said Herr Veigstock, accentuating each word, "that his lordship, when at home, never knew what running water was. Why should the Countess Szechenyi demand such luxuries? Hasn't she got a maid to fetch water from the well?"

To cut a long story short, there are no sanitary arrangements whatever in Castle Oermeeze. No wonder the Vanderbilts appropriated money for its improvement. It needs it.

BIG GERMAN WARSHIP FIRST OF NEW NAVY

BERLIN, March 7.—The Nassau, the first of the monster battleships by which the Kaiser intends to make the Fatherland a first-rate power afloat, was launched today at Wilhelmshaven.

The Nassau displaces 17,000 tons, will attain 18 knots speed and carry a crew of 960. The cost is \$3,150,000. The Nassau's twin ship, the Sachsen, will be launched shortly at Bremen, and work is being rushed on the Wurtemberg and Baden, 15,700 each.

LONDON, March 7.—There is much speculation here tonight as to what new honors will be conferred upon J. Pierpont Morgan, as the result of his acting as host today to Queen Alexandra, her sister, the Dowager Empress of Russia, and Princess Victoria.

The royal party visited the American financier's residence today and made an inspection of the art treasures in Morgan's collection.

CONGRESS OF WORLD'S MOTHERS WILL BEGIN HERE ON TUESDAY



MRS. NATHAN B. SCOTT, Wife of the Senator From West Virginia.

MRS. D. O. MEARS, Of Albany, President of the New York State Assembly.

MRS. JAMES BOLTON, Of New Haven, Conn., Recording Secretary of National Congress.

MRS. MARY E. MUMFORD, Of Philadelphia, Vice President of the National Congress.

Method of Obtaining Best Development of Child to Be Discussed.

The President Will Give Reception at White House to Delegates.

The future of the American child, his physical and moral training, and the best methods by which the highest development may be obtained will be the specific study of the first International Congress of Mothers, which will open in Washington next Tuesday afternoon with a reception by President Roosevelt at the White House. The sessions of the congress, which will continue until March 17, inclusive, will be held in the Metropolitan M. E. Church, Four-and-a-half and C streets, Northwest.

Forty-eight foreign countries will be represented in the congress in addition to delegates appointed by the governors of States as special representatives. The President has appointed Elmer Ellsworth Brown, Commissioner of Education, to represent the United States, and has otherwise manifested his deep interest in the congress and its purposes. One of the chief speakers at the congress will be Judge Benjamin B. Lindsey, of Denver, one of the most noted juvenile court judges in the country. Judge Lindsey will speak on "The Treatment of Erring Children."

Goal of Years' Hopes.

The forthcoming congress is one for which the American Congress of Mothers has earnestly hoped many years.

In the last ten years, since the congress was founded by the late Mrs. Theodore Birney, its members have striven to better the conditions of the American child and to help the American mother. Each year has found them a little nearer to the accomplishment of their ideals and now there will be delegates here from many foreign powers to report on the conditions surrounding the children of their respective countries and to gain the benefit of any superior methods which may obtain in this country.

The congress promises to be notable for many reasons. It not only has the hearty endorsement of the President, who never loses an opportunity to emphasize his deep interest in the welfare of the child, but he is actively interested and has shown this in the appointment of a special representative of the United States and in planning a reception at which he may personally meet members of the congress.

In the list of speakers in addition to Mr. Brown and Judge Lindsey are Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief chemist of the United States; Charles F. Neill, Commissioner of Labor; Clifford W. Barnes, Martin G. Brumbaugh, of Philadelphia; Dr. Luther H. Gulick, Edward Allen, of Perkins Institute, Boston, and others.

Service for Children.

Aside from the scheduled business of the congress, there will be two important happenings during the week. One will be a service Sunday afternoon, March 15, for the special benefit of Sunday school children of Washington, at which the Rev. W. L. Worcester, of Philadelphia, will officiate. In the evening of the same day a memorial meeting in honor of the late Mrs. Theodore Birney, founder and honorary president of the Mothers' Congress, will be held in the Shoreham Hotel. Mrs. Birney was greatly beloved by members of the congress and her influence was manifest in its work long after she retired from active participation in its affairs. The meeting has been planned with a view to giving members of the congress an opportunity to join in a public tribute to her memory.

Foreign delegates to the congress have not yet begun to arrive in Washington, but will come tomorrow. Headquarters will be maintained at the Shoreham Hotel, and members of the District Congress will be present to welcome them. Several wives of foreign ministers, who are already in Washington, will represent their countries at the congress, but some of the visitors who are coming from afar will not reach here until as late as Tuesday.

Program of Congress.

The entire program for the week is: MARCH 10. Afternoon—Reception of delegates at White House and address by President Roosevelt. Evening—"Children in United States," Elmer Ellsworth Brown, Commissioner of Education; "Children in Great Britain," by representative of Great Britain.

MARCH 11. "Children in Other Lands," by representatives of each country sending delegates.

MARCH 12. Morning—"The Home—Child Study and Child Labor," by Charles F. Neill, of Commerce and Labor Department.

MARCH 13. Morning—Household economics committee program, charge of Mrs. E. M. Tracher, Florence, N. J., chairman; addresses by Harvey W. Wiley, chief of Bureau of Chemistry, and others. Demonstration of cooking. Afternoon—Education committee. Program in charge of Mrs. W. S. Hefferman, Chicago, Ill., chairman. "Moral Training," by Clifford Webster Barnes, Lake Forest, Ill. Symposium on parent-teacher associations.

MARCH 14. Morning—"Education of the Deaf." Program in charge of Miss Mary S. Garrett, Penn. School for Teaching Speech to Deaf Children. Afternoon—Entertainment. Given by National Congress of Mothers to children of Washington. "Story Telling," by Miss Susan Holton. "Children's Literature," by Mrs. Herman H. Birney. Music.

MARCH 15. Morning—"Sunday School." Program in charge of the Rev. W. L. Worcester, chairman, Philadelphia. Afternoon—Education of the Blind. Program in charge of Edward Allen, Perkins Institute, Boston, Mass.

MARCH 16. Morning—Business meeting. Afternoon and Evening—"Treatment of Erring and Dependent Children." Hon. B. Lindsey, chairman juvenile court committee, and others.

MARCH 17. Morning—"Day Nurseries." Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, Play Grounds." Dr. Luther H. Gulick. Afternoon—"Education of the Blind." Program in charge of Edward Allen, Perkins Institute, Boston, Mass. Evening—"Formulation of Principles for Progress in Work for the General Welfare of Childhood."

ANNA GOULD DENIES WEDDING. PARIS, March 7.—Mme. Anna Gould has denied the report that she had married Prince de Sagan.

Grand Duke Michael Falls in Love; Czar Exiles Brother's Sweetheart After Latter Had Sworn to Wed Her

ST. PETERSBURG, March 7.—Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, the Czar's only brother, a bachelor, and nearly thirty years of age, is having his first affair of the heart, and the woman he loves has been promptly banished from Russian soil. She is the daughter of a south Russian landed proprietor, but her name cannot be learned at present.

At the court of St. Petersburg it had been noticed for some time that Grand Duke Michael secured an unusual number of furloughs, but his military superiors were not informed where he spent his frequent vacations.

Indeed, these were forbidden by the imperial highness to inquire until, a few weeks ago, the Czar himself ordered a strict investigation. It was then learned that the grand ducal outings were all in south Russia, and that his goings and comings were attended by the utmost secrecy.

The Emperor a trifle later learned the truth from one of Michael's valets. The grand duke, he said, "had become smitten with the daughter of a south Russian landed proprietor, and since he passed in the girl's family a simple gentleman of leisure from St. Petersburg, there was no objection to his repeated visits to the estate."

As to the young woman, the Czar's informant described her in extravagant terms "as the loveliest girl in all Russia," a circumstance that caused Nicholas to cut short his brother's romance without delay.

The Czar ordered a trusted army of-

ficer to accompany the valet and learn all that was to be known of the affair. The imperial representative did not wait a minute too soon. A day or two before his arrival the grand duke's incognito had been accidentally lifted on the occasion of a numerous attended dinner, tendered him by the father of his lady love.

The disclosure caused consternation among the guests, and the girl swooned away. But the grand duke quickly revived her by declaring, before the whole audience, that he was serious and would marry her, even if obliged to give up name and fortune.

When the report reached Nicholas he knew at once that half measures were out of the question, since his brother is a most determined young gentleman. Unless strenuous measures were adopted at once, he might actually marry the girl. So the Czar telegraphed to General Kaulbars, governor of Odessa, ordering him to repair to the estate on the spot, and without ceremony inform the young woman's father that he and his daughter were desired by the Czar to leave Russia at once and live abroad, at the Czar's expense, until such a time when his majesty allowed him to return.

It was intimated that the banishment might be shortened if the girl married a man of her own class. General Kaulbars delivered this cruel message with such energy, promptness, and dispatch that Grand Duke Michael's sweetheart, and her parents, departed from their estate within six hours. Their destination is General Kaulbars' and the Czar's secret.

CENTURY LAWSUIT DRAWING TO CLOSE

Pulteney Probate Case Will Soon Be Settled by English Heirs.

LONDON, March 7.—After 100 years' wrangling in the probate court the lawyers are about through with the late Mrs. Betty Speke Pulteney's estate, and what is left of it will be turned over to the heirs in a few weeks.

Only £1,000—\$5,000—was involved in the suit at first, but compound interest and lucky investments by the generations of trustees who have administered it, have increased the fund to \$800. It would have been five or six times the latter amount but for the cost of litigation.

Not much had been done in the case for a number of years until a week ago, when one of the attorneys appeared in court to ask Judge Sir Gorell Barnes to "presume" the death of Charles Pulteney, who owned the original \$5,000 and would own it yet if he were alive.

"I want to presume that he died in 1780," said the lawyer.

Sir Gorell gasped. "You see, he disappeared in 1780," continued the attorney, "and, although he was sought all over the world, they couldn't find him. Assuming that he died the year he disappeared, his wife would have inherited his property and her heirs would have inherited it from her and their heirs from them and their heirs are entitled to it today."

"Well, if he disappeared in 1780, I presume he's dead," said Sir Gorell. So, as soon as the money can be divided up and the final costs are settled, Mrs. Pulteney's descendants will come into their own.

The German courts settled a law suit a few days ago which outdoes even the Pulteney probate case. It was between the municipality of Pirmear and some neighboring millowners, who were accused of increasing the height of a dam in the river Nesse without proper authority, and had been pending 48 years. It would be pending, but an amicable agreement was reached. The money swallowed up in the litigation is incalculable.

BELGIANS ANGRY OVER CONGO FIGHT

Leopold Has Never Drawn Money, as Accused Official Says.

BRUSSELS, March 7.—Belgian officialdom is furious over the recent English parliamentary debate over the Congo at the very time King Leopold was arranging to turn the Free State over to his country.

"The obvious purpose was to force Belgium to act," said a high official of the Brussels government, in discussing the matter, "and it was intimated that King Leopold draws money from the Congo for his own use, the pending transfer to Belgium being a sham."

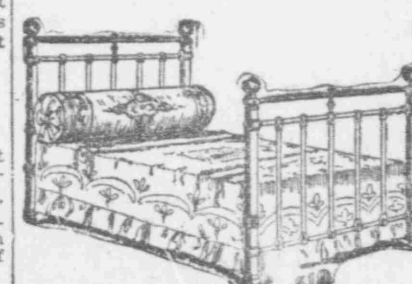
"The King has not only never drawn a penny of Congo revenues for himself, but up to a few years ago contributed annually from his own pocket to the budget."

"Lord Cromer told the peers that no solution of the Congo question would be satisfactory which falls to give Belgium complete parliamentary control. The Belgian parliament's control of the Congo will be far simpler than England's over the crown colonies."

"True, serious differences have arisen between King Leopold and the prime minister and the government's resignation was threatened for a time. Now his majesty and the premier are working harmoniously."

As Belgium has a constitutional government, the opposition criticizing the method of the Congo transfer, but there is nothing more than this. "It is useless that a deadlock exists over the future status of the Congo crown domain. The crown domain is like, for instance, the Carnegie trust fund or an acreage of American public lands set apart to support schools. His majesty has no personal financial interest in it."

"Under the deed of transfer it was necessary to abolish this domain, because Belgian law, unlike British and German law, does not recognize 'foundations.' So the domain will become an integral part of the Free State. "Belgium is a small country, but even small countries have memories, and sometimes opportunities to do important favors or the reverse for their big neighbors."



An extraordinary value in a heavy White Enamel Bed. \$4.00 Single or double size. Heavy brass rail at head and foot.

We are offering this week specially low prices on beds and bedding. The articles here illustrated are quoted to you very much under the regular selling price, and the reductions upon everything else in the department are proportionate. We have a comprehensive display of metal beds in all sizes and styles of finish, including white, colored, and Vernis Martin. Our brass bed display is elaborate, with a large range of patterns. We have beds with square posts, and beds with round posts in bright finish, satin finish, and Polet finish. Our line of Mattresses, Springs, Pillows, Bolster Rolls, Comforts, and Blankets includes everything that makes a bed pretty and comfortable.



Heavy White Enamel Beds of this design, with big brass knobs and good casters; genuine baked enamel; all signs. Special for \$2.98

Bed Room Talk

The Kind You Like to Hear

When in Doubt, Buy of HOUSE & HERRMANN Seventh and Eye Sts. N. W. Look For the Gilded Dome.



This is a substantially made Brass Bed, with heavy, continuous post and high lacquer finish. Easily worth \$10 more than \$28.75 we ask. Price.....

The articles here illustrated are quoted to you very much under the regular selling price, and the reductions upon everything else in the department are proportionate. We have a comprehensive display of metal beds in all sizes and styles of finish, including white, colored, and Vernis Martin. Our brass bed display is elaborate, with a large range of patterns. We have beds with square posts, and beds with round posts in bright finish, satin finish, and Polet finish. Our line of Mattresses, Springs, Pillows, Bolster Rolls, Comforts, and Blankets includes everything that makes a bed pretty and comfortable.



A very thoroughly constructed Brass Bed, with heavy posts, bow foot, high lacquer finish. A cheap bed at \$25.00. Our price..... \$18.25